

2 Army Nets For Spying Suspected

By John Hall

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Senate investigators say they now have reason to believe the Army operated two separate domestic intelligence networks at the same time to spy on civilian dissidents. One of them, evidently, existed unbeknownst to civilian officials in the Pentagon.

Congressional sources said the exposure by Sen. Sam J. Ervin Jr. (D-N.C.) of the spying operation—largely dismantled last year—has revealed only the tip of an iceberg. Ervin's Constitutional Rights subcommittee is continuing the investigation and may hold more hearings later in the year.

The subcommittee's disclosure so far, mostly culled from information supplied by former undercovermen for the Army, have concentrated mainly on the U.S. Army Intelligence Command (USAINTC) headquartered at Ft. Holabird, Md. This is the agency which took charge of the government's plan for coping with civil disturbances after the Detroit riots of 1967.

But a second intelligence-

gathering organization, apparently more loosely run and less centralized, also was operating at the same time—sometimes duplicating the Intelligence Command, and sometimes competing with it.

This organization apparently was built around "tactical intelligence" units of combat divisions stationed at U.S. bases. These units ordinarily are used in wartime to collect information on enemy troops movements and other intelligence.

The subcommittee's investigation has barely touched on the use of these "G-1" groups in civilian surveillance. But subcommittee sources say they know this much:

- There were more than one or two instances where the tactical units were involved.

- G-2 activities were centralized to some degree and were directed by the Continental Army Command (CONARC) headquartered at Ft. Monroe, Va. CONARC stored information collected by tactical intelligence units in a civil disturbance computer, that was ordered destroyed April 1, 1970.

- The entire operation apparently was carried out without the knowledge of the Army secretary and other civilians.

Assistant Defense Secretary Robert F. Froehlke has testified that "civilian control or even knowledge of these few activities did not exist."

Subcommittee sources say Ervin wants to reopen the hearings this year and get to the bottom of CONARC's involvement.